

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to a magnetic tape unit to which a cartridge having a magnetic tape therein is detachably attached and which accesses a magnetic tape in accordance with an access request from a host. Software of the host which accesses a conventional magnetic tape unit to which a cartridge accommodating a plurality of cartridges is attached is used as it is while using the cartridge accommodating a large-capacity magnetic tape. Management information of a plurality of volumes is written in the cartridge, and a LOAD command from the host is replaced by a command for accessing an actual cartridge.